

RESOLUTION

Acceptance of Secondhand Smoke as a Public Health Concern

WHEREAS, in 1993 the United States Environmental Protection Agency identified secondhand smoke as a Group A carcinogen.ⁱ

WHEREAS, secondhand smoke is the third leading cause of preventable death in the country, causing lung cancer, heart disease, and stroke in adultsⁱⁱ.

WHEREAS, other detrimental health effects of exposure to secondhand smoke include low birthweight and sudden infant death syndrome, bronchitis, and pneumonia in children.ⁱⁱⁱ

WHEREAS, approximately 263 Marion County residents die of secondhand smoke exposure every year.^{iv}

WHEREAS, secondhand smoke causes asthma which is diagnosed in over 10% of Marion County residents.^v

WHEREAS, 88% of non-smokers show detectable levels of cotinine (a metabolite of nicotine) in their blood.^{vi}

WHEREAS, an Indiana University Public Opinion Laboratory randomized survey of Marion County residents in 2002 found:

- 77% of adults support a regulation to prohibit smoking in workplaces;
- 66% of adults support a regulation to prohibit smoking in restaurants;
- 74% of adults support a regulation to prohibit smoking in all public places.^{vii}

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED by the entity represented by the signature subsequently listed as follows:

Section 1. The Indianapolis Marion County City County Council should pass an ordinance to eliminate secondhand smoke from workplaces, including restaurants, and other public places.

Name/Date

Organization

ⁱ United States Environmental Protection Agency. *Respiratory Health Effects of Passive Smoking: Lung Cancer and Other Disorders*. 1992.

ⁱⁱ Glanz, S.A. & Pamley W. *AHA Circulation*, 1991; 83:1-12; and Taylor, A., Johnson, D. & Kazemi, H. *AHA Circulation*, 1992: 699-702.

ⁱⁱⁱ National Cancer Institute. *Health effects of exposure to environmental tobacco smoke: the report of the California Environmental Protection Agency*. Bethesda, Maryland: US Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute, 1999; NIH publication no. 99-4645.

^{iv} Marion County Health Department, Unpublished data projections based on findings of *Health effects of exposure to environmental tobacco smoke: the report of the California Environmental Protection Agency*. Bethesda, Maryland: US Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute, 1999; NIH publication no. 99-4645.

^v Marion County Health Department, *Community Health Assessment Executive Summary*, 1996.

^{vi} Pirkle, et. al. (1996) *Journal of American Medicine*, 275: 1233-1240.

^{vii} Tobacco Smart Indiana, 2002 *Public Opinion Survey*.